

## ROMAN ANTIQUITIES, FIFESHIRE.

The Secretary communicated an account of a remarkable discovery of Roman coins and other remains, in the parish of Portmoak, Fifeshire. The field where they were found was formerly a deep bog, which, by draining and burning, has been brought into cultivation, and is now good corn-land. In the month of October 1851, a boy, while reaping, turned up a Roman coin with the point of his hook. This led to further search, and upwards of 600 Roman denarii were found, all lying close together, as if they had been enclosed in a bag, and at a depth of only three or four inches from the surface. There were also found at the same spot, an iron sword and a beautiful though imperfect silver ornament, thought to have formed the crest of a helmet. This hoard of Roman silver is peculiarly interesting, as it comprised coins extending over a period of upwards of a century and a half, including the entire series of emperors from Nero to Severus, with those of the empresses Sabina, the elder and younger Faustina, and Lucilla. The hoard may be supposed to have formed the treasure of a soldier in the northern expedition of Septimius Severus, A.D. 208, some of whose coins were found in fine condition; and it serves to shew how little dependence can be placed on dates inferred from the discovery of a few isolated Roman coins in a locality, as it is obvious that they continued to be employed as a circulating medium for centuries. The following description furnishes a note of a small portion of this interesting hoard, of which an opportunity was afforded for examination:—

## NERO.

IMP. NERO. CAES. AVG. P. M. Laureated head to right. R. SALVS. The goddess seated, holding out a patera.

## GALBA.

1. IMP. SER. GALBA. CAESAR. AVG. Laureated head to right. R. ROMA. RENASC. Warrior standing, holding Victory and spear.
2. R. S. P. Q. R. OB. C. S. In a civic crown.

## OTHO.

IMP. M. OTHO. CAESAR. AVG. TR. P. Bare head to right. R. SECVRITAS. P. R. Security standing, holding garland and hasta.

## VITELLIUS.

1. A. VITELLIVS. GERM. IMP. AVG. TR. P. Laureated head to right. R. FONT. MAXIM. Female seated, holding patera and hasta.
2. Same obverse. R. LIBERTAS. RESTITVTA. Liberty holding cap and hasta, standing to left.

## VESPASIANUS.

1. IMP. CAESAR. VESPASIANVS. AVG. Laureated head to right. R. IVDAEA. Judaea seated on the ground, behind her a military trophy.
2. IMP. CAES. VESP. AVG. P. M. COS. IIII. CEN. Laureated head to right. R. FIDES. PVBL. Two hands joined holding a caduceus, two poppy-heads, and two ears of corn.
3. IMP. CAESAR. VESPASIANVS. Laureated head to right. R. PON. MAX. TR. P. COS. V. A winged caduceus.
4. Same obverse. R. COS. V. Two laurel branches, exactly as on a silver coin of Augustus.
5. IMP. CAES. VESP. AVG. CEN. Laureated head to right. R. PONTIF. MAXIM. Emperor seated on a curule chair to right.
6. DIVVS. AVGVSTVS. VESPASIANVS. Laureated head to right. R. S. C. Inscribed upon a shield, supported by two capricorns turned different ways, between them a globe.

## TITUS.

1. IMP. TITVS. CAES. VESPASIAN. AVG. P. M. Laureated head to right. R. TR. P. IX. IMP. XV. COS. VIII. P. P. A dolphin twined round an anchor.
2. Same obverse. R. Same legend. An elephant to left.

## DOMITIANUS.

1. IMP. CAES. DOMITIANVS. AVG. P. M. Laureated head to right. R. TR. POT. COS. VIII. P. P. Tripod, upon which a dolphin.
2. Same. R. TR. P. COS. VII. DES. VIII. P. P. Similar type.
3. CAESAR. DIVI. F. DOMITIANVS. COS. VII. Laureated head to right. R. PRINCEPS. IVVENTVTIS. Altar.

## NERVA.

- IMP. NERVA. CAES. AVG. P. M. TR. POT. Laureated head to right. R. COS. III. PATER. PATRIAE. Pontifical instruments, that is, lituus, præfericulum, aspergillum, and simpulum.

## TRAJANUS.

1. IMP. NERVA. CAES. TRAIAN. AVG. GERM. Laureated head to right. R. TR. P. COS. II. P. P. Female seated, holding patera and hasta.
2. IMP. CAES. NERVA. TRAIAN. AVG. GERM. Laureated head to right. R. P. M. TR. P. COS. IIII. P. P. Victory standing, holding a garland.
3. Same obverse. R. Same legend. Concordia seated to left, on a seat formed by two cornucopiæ.

4. Same obverse. R. Same legend. Mars, or Romulus, marching, bearing a lance and trophy.
5. IMP. TRAIANO. AVG. GER. DAC. P. M. TR. P. Laureated head to right. R. COS. V. P. P. S. P. Q. R. OPTIMO. PRINC. Warrior standing, with Victory and spear.
6. IMP. TRAIANO. AVG. GER. DAC. P. M. TR. P. COS. V. P. P. Laureated head to right. R. S. P. Q. R. OPTIMO. PRINCIPI. Hope walking to left.
7. A similar coin, but R. Equestrian statue of the Emperor.
8. As No. 6. R. COS. V. P. P. S. P. Q. R. OPTIMO. PRINCIPI. Piety standing before an altar. In exergue, PIET.
9. IMP. CAES. NER. TRAIANO. OPTIMO. AVG. GER. DAC. Laureated head to right. R. P. M. TR. P. COS. VI. P. P. S. P. Q. R. Genius standing, holding a patera, and ears of corn.
10. IMP. TRAIANO. AVG. GER. DAC. P. M. TR. P. COS. VI. P. P. Laureated head to right. R. S. P. Q. R. OPTIMO. PRINCIPI. Female reclining, holding in one hand a branch, in the other a wheel. In exergue, VIA. TRAIANA.

## HADRIANUS.

1. HADRIANVS. AVGVSTVS. Laureated head to right. R. CLEMENTIA. AVG. COS. III. P. P. Female standing, holding patera and hasta.
2. Same obverse. R. Crescent and star cos. III.
3. Same obverse. R. COS. III. Crescent and seven stars.
4. Same obverse. R. COS. III. Victory seated to left.
5. HADRIANVS. AVG. COS. III. P. P. Laureated head to right. R. PIETAS. AVG. Piety standing at an altar.
6. Same obverse. R. VICTORIA. AVG. Victory seated to left.
7. Same obverse. R. TELLVS. STABIL. A male figure in his under tunic (an agriculturist), holding in his right hand a ploughshare, in his left a rake, behind him are two ears of corn.
8. Same obverse. R. NILVS. The Nile personified, reclining, holding a cornucopia, at his sides a hippopotamus and crocodile.
9. HADRIANVS AVGVSTVS. Laureated head to right. R. COS. III. Female seated, raising her right hand to her face.
10. Same obverse. R. COS. III. Roma seated to right.
11. Same obverse. R. COS. III. Eagle standing upon a sceptre.
12. Same obverse. R. COS. III. Neptune to right, resting his foot on the prow of a ship, holding a trident and a dolphin.
13. IMP. CAESAR. TRAIAN. HADRIANVS. AVG. Laureated head to right. R. P. M. TR. P. COS. III. Victory to right, bearing a trophy.

14. Same obverse. R. Same legend. Mars or Romulus to right, with lance and trophy.
15. Same obverse. R. Same legend. Fortune standing, holding rudder and cornucopia.
16. Same obverse. R. Same legend. Female seated to left. In exergue, LAETITIA.
17. DIVVS . HADRIANVS. Bare head to right. R. CONSECRATIO. Eagle to right, looking back, holding in its talons a sceptre.

## SABINA.

SABINA . AVGVSTA . HADRIANI . AVG . P . P. Head to right. R. INDVLGENTIA . AVG . P . P. Female seated to left, holding out her open right hand, in her left a hasta. In exergue, COS . III.

## ANTONINVS PIVS.

1. ANTONINVS . AVG . PIVS . P . P. Laureated head to right. R. TR . POT . COS . III. Liberality standing, holding in one hand a tessera, in the other a cornucopia. In exergue, LIB . III.
2. Same obverse. R. COS . III. Two hands holding a caduceus and two ears of corn.
3. Same obverse. R. COS . III. Female standing, holding a patera and hasta.
4. ANTONINVS . AVG . PIVS . P . P . TR . P . XXII. R. AEDE . DIVI . AVG . REST . COS . III. Octostyle temple, in which two figures seated.
5. Same obverse. R. TEMPL . DIVI . AVG . REST . COS . III. Same type.
6. ANTONINVS . AVG . PIVS . P . P . TR . P . XII. Laureated head to right. R. COS . III. Female standing holding a balance.
7. ANTONINVS . AVG . PIVS . P . P . IMP . II. Laureated head to right. R. TR . POT . XIX . COS . III. Female seated, holding out a patera to a serpent twined round an altar.
8. Obverse as No. 6, but TR . P . XXIII. R. PIETATI . AVG . COS . III. Female standing, holding in her right hand a globe, on her left arm a child. A child standing on each side.
9. Same obverse, but TR . P . XVIII. R. COS . III. Female standing to right, in her right hand a cornucopia, in her left a rudder.
10. Same obverse. R. COS . III. Female standing, holding in her right hand ears of corn, her left hand touching a modius.
11. Same, but TR . P . XVI. R. COS . III. Female standing with rudder and cornucopia.
12. Same, but TR . P . COS . III. R. PROVIDENTIAE . DEORVM. Winged thunder-bolt.

13. Same, but TR . P . XXII. R. VOTA . SVSCEP . DECENN . III . COS : IIII. The Emperor veiled, sacrificing on a tripod.
14. Same, but TR . F . XI. R. COS . IIII. Female standing, in her left hand a rudder, holding out with her right hand a patera to a serpent arising from an altar.
15. IMP . CAES . T . AEL . HADR . ANTONINVS . AVG . PIVS . P . P. R. TR . POT . XV . COS . IIII. Female standing, leaning on a rudder, holding out ears of corn. In exergue, TRANQ.
16. Same obverse. R. Same legend. Piety standing at an altar, with her right hand holding a ram by the forelegs, in her left holding up a patera filled with fruit. In exergue, PIETAS.
17. Same obverse. R. TR . POT . XIII . COS . IIII. Peace standing, holding an olive branch and a hasta. In exergue, PAX.
18. DIVVS . ANTONINVS. Bare head to right. R. CONSECRATIO. Eagle on a globe.
19. Same, but a funeral pile.

#### FAUSTINA SENIOR.

1. DIVA FAUSTINA. Head to right. R. AVGVSTA. Throne of Juno, across which a sceptre.
2. Same obverse. R. CERES. Ceres standing, holding ears of corn and a long torch.
3. Same obverse. R. AETERNITAS. Throne of Juno, across which a sceptre; before, a peacock, the bird of Juno. Faustina is thus symbolised as Juno.
4. Same obverse. R. Same. Veiled female holding up her right hand; in her left a hasta.
5. Same obverse. R. Same. Female holding in her right hand a globe; her veil surrounds her head like a halo or nimbus.
6. Same obverse. R. AVGVSTA. Female standing, holding ears of corn and a hasta.
7. Same obverse. R. Same. Female standing, holding a hasta.
8. DIVA . AVG . FAUSTINA. Head to right. R. CONCORDIAE. Antoninus and Faustina joining hands.

#### M. AURELIUS.

1. AVRELIVS . CAES . AVG . PII . F . F . COS . DES. Bare head to left. R. ANTONINVS : AVG . PIVS . P . P. Bare head of Pius to right.
2. Same, but cos. Bare head of Aurelius to right. R. Same, but P . P . COS III. Laureated head of Antoninus to right.

3. AVRELIVS . CAESAR . AVG . PII . F. Bare head to right. R. TR . POT . III . COS . II. Female standing; in her left hand a hasta; with her right hand pointing to a globe lying before her.
4. AVRELIVS . CAESAR . AVG . PII . F . COS. Bare head to right. R. PIETAS . AVG. Simpulum, lituus, præfericulum, aspergillum, and culter.
5. M . ANTONINVS . AVG . PARTH . MAX. Laureated head to right. R. TR . P . XX . IMP . III . COS . III. Peace standing. In exergue, PAX.
6. M . ANTONINVS . AVG . TR . P . XXIII. Laureated head to right. R. SALVTI . AVG . COS . III. Hygæ standing, holding out a patera to a serpent arising from an altar.
7. Obverse as No. 6. R. TR . P . XX . IMP . III . COS . III. Victory standing, holding a palm branch; her left arm is laid upon a shield, inscribed VIC . PAR, supported on the trunk of a palm-tree.
8. M . ANTONINVS . AVG . GERM . SARM. Laureated head to right. R. TR . P . XXXI . IMP . VIII . COS . III . P . P. Victory walking to left.
9. M . AVREL . ANTONINVS . AVG. Laureated head to right. R. TR . P . XXXIII . IMP . X . COS . III . P . P. Fortune seated, with rudder and cornucopia; below the seat, a wheel.
10. DIVVS . M . ANTONINVS . PIVS. Bare head. R. CONSECRATIO. Funeral pile.

## FAUSTINA junior.

1. FAVSTINA . AVGVSTA. Head to right. R. HILARITAS. Female standing, holding palm branch and cornucopia.
2. Same obverse. R. FECVNDITAS. Female standing, holding hasta and child.
3. Same obverse. R. IVNO. Juno standing, holding patera and hasta; at her feet, a peacock.
4. Same obverse. R. IVNONI . REGINAE; same type.
5. Same obverse. R. Same legend. Juno seated, holding patera and hasta; at her feet, a peacock.
6. Same obverse. R. SÆCVLI . FELICITAS. Two children, Commodus and Lucilla, in a lectisternium.

## L. VERUS.

1. IMP . L . AVREL . VERVS . AVG. Bare head to right. R. PROV . DEOR . TR . P . COS . II. Female standing, holding globe and cornucopia.
2. L . VERVS . AVG . ARM . PARTH . MAX. Laureated head to right. R. TR . P . V . IMP . III . COS . II. A Parthian captive seated amongst arms, his hands bound behind his back. Among the arms may be seen the bow, which

on the greater number of Parthian coins, is to be seen, held by the King, as being the national arm.

3. Same obverse. R. TR . P . VI . IMP . III . COS . III . Peace standing ; in exercise, PAX.

## LUCILLA.

1. LVCILLAE . AVG . ANTONINI . AVG . F . Head to right. R. DIANA . LVCIFERA . Diana to right, holding a torch.
2. Same obverse. R. VENVS . Venus standing to left, holding an apple.
3. Same obverse. R. VOTA . PVBLICA , in a garland.

## COMMODUS.

1. IMP . L . AVREL . COMMODVS . AVG . GERM . SARM . Laureated head to right. R. TR . P . II . COS . P . P . Victory walking to left.
2. M . ANTONINVS . COMMODVS . AVG . Laureated head to right. R. TR . P . VII . IMP . III . COS . III . P . P . Female standing, holding in her left hand a cornucopia ; in her right hand two ears of corn above a modius.
4. M . COMM . ANT . P . BRIT . FEL . Laureated head to right. R. P . M . TR . P . X . IMP . VII . COS . III . P . P . Jupiter seated, holding a Victory.
5. M . COMM . ANT . P . FEL . AVG . BRIT . Laureated head to right. R. P . M . TR . P . XI . IMP . VII . COS . V . P . P . Commodus seated on a curule chair, holding out a globe.
6. Same obverse. R. HILAR . AVG . P . M . TR . P . XI . IMP . VII . COS . V . P . P . Hilarity standing, with branch and palm branch.
7. L . AEL . AVREL . COMM . AVG . P . FEL . Laureated head to right. R. I . O . M . SPONSOR . SEC . AVG . Commodus standing togate, holding a globe, and crowned by Jupiter standing behind him.

## SEVERUS.

1. L . SEPT . SEV . PERT . AVG . IMP . III . Laureated head to right. R. GENIVS . P . R . The Genius of the Roman people sacrificing on an altar.
2. Same, but IMP . VIII . R. VOTA . PVBLICA . Severus veiled and togate, sacrificing on a tripod.

III. CONVERSAZIONE.—*March 30, 1852.*

The Third *Conversazione* of the Season was held in the Society's Rooms. There were exhibited, along with the Donations recently presented to the Society, other objects of interest, including—

A Roman Centurial Inscription, dug up at Castlecary, on the Antonine Wall, in 1841: by the Right Hon. The EARL of ZETLAND.

A collection of Primitive Urns, with Flint Arrow-heads, &c., recently found in a group of stone cists at Lesmurdie, Banffshire: presented to the Society by Captain STEWART of Lesmurdie, and ALEXANDER ROBERTSON, Esq., F.G.S., &c. The Skulls and some of the Bones from the same graves were also exhibited.

A collection of Models of Ancient Classic Ruins, including the Temples of Paestum, the Arch of Titus, &c.: by the COUNCIL of the ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY.

A model of the "Heart of Mid-Lothian," or Old Tolbooth of Edinburgh, demolished in 1817, made from drawings taken in 1805 by the Rev. J. Sime, F.S.A. Scot.: by Mr W. T. M'CULLOCH, Clerk to the Society.

A collection of Models of Medieval Buildings, by various contributors; &c.

The Chair was taken by J. M. MITCHELL, Esq., and Alexander Christie, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., Director of the Government School of Design, delivered a lecture on